

Dealers in oysters to make monthly returns.

Tax on purchases.

Commission of Clerk.

Returns forwarded to chief inspector.

Proviso.
As to person taking oysters for their own consumption.

Proviso.
Rebate allowed resident canners.

Oysters to be culled.

Shells and small oysters to be returned to bed.

Proviso.
As to oysters taken for planting.

Proviso.
Oysters not to be taken from 1st May to 1st December except with tongs.

How oysters measured.

Dimensions of measure.

SEC. 7. All persons purchasing oysters for packing, shucking, shipping or for sale, shall, on the first of each month, file with the deputy inspector a statement, duly sworn to before some officer of the law authorized to administer oaths, of the number of bushels purchased, and the name of the person from whom purchased, and shall pay the Clerk of the Court two cents per bushel, or gallon, on each bushel or gallon, and the Clerk of the Court shall retain one-half of one per cent. commission of the fund thus derived, also one-half of one per cent. commission from the license and tonnage tax collected; and the deputy inspector shall forward to the chief inspector the statement filed with him by the party purchasing and paying said tax; *Provided*, that the provisions of this act shall not apply to any persons who take oysters for their own immediate consumption; *Provided, further*, that all persons canning oysters in this State, after having paid the tax of two cents per bushel, shall be entitled to a rebate of one cent per bushel.

SEC. 8. All oysters taken from any of the waters of this State, either with scoops, dredges, rakes, tongs, or any other instrument, shall be culled upon the natural bed or bar, when taken, and all shells shall be returned to the bed or bar from which they were taken, and all oysters whose shells measure less than two and one-half inches in length, from hinges to mouth, shall be included in said culling, and replaced upon said bed or bar, except such small oysters as cling to large ones, and cannot be removed without injury to each other; *Provided*, that this section shall not apply to oysters taken between the first day of May and the first day of February, for planting on private grounds, entered or held under the laws of this State; *Provided, further*, that no oysters shall be taken from the natural beds or public oyster grounds, of the State, from the first day of May to the first day of December, in any year, except with ordinary tongs.

SEC. 9. All oysters measured in this State, in the shell, shall be measured in a circular tub, with straight sides and straight solid bottom, with holes one-half inch in diameter in bottom, and said measure shall have the following dimensions, viz.: A half bushel tub shall measure from inside to inside, fifteen inches across the top, thirteen inches from inside to inside across the bottom, and seventeen inches diagonal from inside chimb to top; a bushel tub shall measure eighteen inches from inside to inside across the top, sixteen inches from inside to inside across the bottom, and twenty-one inches diagonal from inside chimb to top; a three bushel tub shall measure twenty-